Lesson Seven: The Present Tense Verb in the State of Jazm [جَزْم]

PRINCIPLE ONE

The following five particles, when placed before the *present tense verb*, cause it to enter the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم)[20]:

1) إِنْ
2) لَمْ
3) لَمَّا
4) لِ[21]
5) لَا[22]

PRINCIPLE TWO

Recall that changes in *grammatical state* are reflected at the end of a word by either (1) changes in voweling or (2) changes in lettering. If the *present tense verb* ends with a *dammah* (ُ) in the *state* of *rafa'* (رَفْع), the *dammah* is changed to a *sukūn* (ْ) to reflect the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم). If the verb ends in a *nūn* (ن) in the *state* of *rafa'* (رَفْع), the *nūn* (ن) is dropped to reflect the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) [*table 7.1*].

PRINCIPLE THREE

The two *stateless* (مَبْنِي) conjugations of the *present tense verb* (i.e., the second and third person feminine plurals) never enter *states* (*lesson five*,

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[20] These particles do not have independent meaning. When placed before the *present tense verb*, they act to alter its meaning. Refer to higher-level books of Arabic grammar for a discussion of how each of these particles changes the meaning of a verb.

[21] This particle is called, " *lām al-amr* " (the *lām of command*).

[22] This particle is called, " *lām al-nahy* " (the *lām of prohibition*). It differs in meaning from the لَا used to negate the *present tense verb*, which is called " *lām al-nafy* " (the *lām of negation*).

principle five). The five particles that cause the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) do not alter these two conjugations, and the final *nūn* on each of these conjugations does not drop from the end of the verb (*table 7.1*).

PRINCIPLE FOUR

The particle لَمْ is used as a model to illustrate the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم). This particle changes the verb from its default *state* of *rafa'* (رَفْع) to the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم). Furthermore, it alters the meaning of the verb by (1) changing the present tense to the past tense and (2) negating it. Thus يَفْعَلُ (*he does*) becomes لَمْ يَفْعَلْ (*he did not do*).

ESSENTIAL NOTE

The conjugations of the *present tense verb* in the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) must be memorized (*table 7.2*) before moving to the next lesson.

TABLE 7.1

EXPRESSING THE *STATE* OF *JAZM*

VERB IN ORIGINAL *RAFA'*	**SIGN OF *RAFA'***		**PARTICLE CAUSING *JAZM***	**MEANS OF SHOWING *JAZM***		**ACTIVE VOICE IN *JAZM***
يَفْعَلُ He/It (S/M) does	Final *dammah*	+	لَمْ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لَمْ يَفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) did not do
يَفْعَلَانِ They (D/M) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ يَفْعَلَا They (D/M) did not do
يَفْعَلُوْنَ They (P/M) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ يَفْعَلُوْا They (P/M) did not do
تَفْعَلُ She/It (S/F) does	Final *dammah*	+	لَمْ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) did not do
تَفْعَلَانِ They (D/F) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلَا They (D/F) did not do
يَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) do	*Stateless* (مَبْنِي)	+	لَمْ	No change	⇨	لَمْ يَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) did not do
تَفْعَلُ You (S/M) do	Final *dammah*	+	لَمْ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلْ You (S/M) did not do
تَفْعَلَانِ You (D/M) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلَا You (D/M) did not do
تَفْعَلُوْنَ You (P/M) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلُوْا You (P/M) did not do
تَفْعَلِيْنَ You (S/F) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلِيْ You (S/F) did not do
تَفْعَلَانِ You (D/F) do	Final *nūn*	+	لَمْ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلَا You (D/F) did not do
تَفْعَلْنَ You (P/F) do	*Stateless* (مَبْنِي)	+	لَمْ	No change	⇨	لَمْ تَفْعَلْنَ You (P/F) did not do
أَفْعَلُ I do	Final *dammah*	+	لَمْ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لَمْ أَفْعَلْ I did not do
نَفْعَلُ We do	Final *dammah*	+	لَمْ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لَمْ نَفْعَلْ We did not do

TABLE 7.2

THE *PRESENT TENSE VERB* IN THE *STATE* OF *JAZM*

PASSIVE VOICE IN *JAZM*	**ACTIVE VOICE IN *JAZM***
لَمْ يُفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) was not done	لَمْ يَفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) did not do
لَمْ يُفْعَلاَ They (D/M) were not done	لَمْ يَفْعَلاَ They (D/M) did not do
لَمْ يُفْعَلُوْا They (P/M) were not done	لَمْ يَفْعَلُوْا They (P/M) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) was not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلاَ They (D/F) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلاَ They (D/F) did not do
لَمْ فُعْلْنَ They (P/F) were not done	لَمْ يَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلْ You (S/M) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلْ You (S/M) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلاَ You (D/M) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلاَ You (D/M) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلُوْا You (P/M) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلُوْا You (P/M) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلِيْ You (S/F) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلِيْ You (S/F) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلاَ You (D/F) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلاَ You (D/F) did not do
لَمْ تُفْعَلْنَ You (P/F) were not done	لَمْ تَفْعَلْنَ You (P/F) did not do
لَمْ أُفْعَلْ I was not done	لَمْ أَفْعَلْ I did not do
لَمْ نُفْعَلْ We were not done	لَمْ نَفْعَلْ We did not do

M=Masculine F=Feminine S=Singular D=Dual P=Plural